

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 202482

11

ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 XMB-07 OPIC-12 EUR-25 L-03

DOT-00 TRSE-00 FRB-03 CIEP-03 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

RSC-01 /087 R

66617

DRAFTED BY: COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/SCONGER

APPROVED BY: STATE/AF/C/JHDIGGS

COM BIC OED MEPD MWELLS ACTING DIR

BDC WKAESTNER

----- 014412

R 132335Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 202482

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, GB

SUBJECT: TRANSGABON RAILROAD -- RAILS AND LOCOMOTIVES

REF: A) LIBREVILLE 1110; B) LIBREVILLE 1108

1. ON BASIS DISCUSSIONS SO FAR WITH U.S. PRODUCERS, POSSIBILITIES VERY DUBIOUS FOR DELIVERY RAILS TANSGABON DURING NEXT 12-18 MONTHS. THEREFORE, OCTOBER TIMING GABONESE MISSION (REF B) SOLELY TO DISCUSS PURCHASE RAILS DOES NOT REPEAT NOT APPEAR PROPITIOUS. HOWEVER, IF GABONESE DO NOT NEED RAILS PRIOR 1976, IT MAY BE WORTH-WHILE SEND MISSION NEXT YEAR -- POSSIBLY SOMETIME IN SPRING -- BUT NOT, REPEAT NOT, BEFORE HAVING EMBASSY CHECK AGAIN WITH COMMERCE RE U.S. PRODUCERS' ORDER POSITION.

2. EMBASSY SHOULD AVOID, IF POSSIBLE, CONVEYING INFO PARA 1 TO GABONESE UNTIL CURRENT EXPLORATION AVAILABILITY U.S. RAISL COMPLETED -- HOPEFULLY EARLY WEEK SEPT 16.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 202482

3. IF GABONESE STILL WISH PURSUE PROSPECTS OBTAINING RAILS U.S., FOLLOWING INFO NEEDED ASAP: (A) NUMBER, LENGTH AND WEIGHT OF RAILS DESIRED; (B) ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT, IF ANY -- E.G., FROGS, SWITCHES, PLATES, BOLTS; (C) DELIVERY DATES; (D) QUOTATION BASIS -- E.G., CURRENCY, C.I.F. OWENDO; (E) SOURCE OF FINANCING.

4. EXCEPTIONALLY TIGHT RAIL SUPPLY SITUATION REFLECTS EFFORTS RE DEFERRED MAINTENANCE FOR RAILS, TRACKLAYING ESTIMATED \$3 BILLION FOR U.S. RAILROADS. PENDING LEGISLATION TO REVAMP NORTHEAST RAIL SYSTEM WILL ADD SUBSTANTIALLY TO THIS FIGURE.

5. SUDDEN EUROPEAN, GABONESE INTEREST IN U.S. RAILS PROBABLY REFLECTS ACUTE SHORTAGE STEEL AND RAILS WORLD-WIDE, INCLUDING FRANCE. GENERALLY SUPERIOR QUALITY U.S. RAILS MAY BE SECONDARY FACTOR -- AT LEAST IN OCTRA AND GABONESE VIEW.

6. FYI: REVIEW IN COMMERCE WITH FORMER U.S. REP. MRCE BERGIER AND POTENTIAL REP. EDSON SURFACED ADDITIONAL POINTS FAVORING GENERAL ELECTRIC BID THAT WOULD SEEM WELL WORTH MAKING TO OCTRA. AFTER CONSULTATION GE SEPT 16, EMBASSY WILL BE INSTRUCTED ACCORDINGLY. (END FHI.) KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE202482
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/SCONGER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740257-1104
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740946/aaaabmtty.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) LIBREVILLE 1110; B) LIBREVILLE 11, 08
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRANSGABON RAILROAD -- RAILS AND LOCOMOTIVES
TAGS: BEXP, GB
To: LIBREVILLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005